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AUTHOR	Feldman, Jonathan
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ABSTRACT

This book presents the thesis that U.S. universities have become part of an academic-military-industrial complex that support repression and murder in Central America. Part 1 explains how U.S. policies have been based on murder in Central America and examines the responsibility of transnational corporations and U.S. war planners in this enterprise. Part 2 documents the role of transnationals in Central America, focusing on the role of agro-chemical companies in creating economic dependency and how university links to corporate investments in the region could be used to challenge U.S. policy in Central America. A theory of "selective divestment" is advanced that describes how divestment actions used to mobilize opposition to U.S. support for apartheid in South Africa could be applied to Central America. Part 3 examines how universities are part of a larger "warfare state," focusing on universities' increasing dependency on military funding and the political and economic forces that drive the militarization of research and development (R&D) activities in the United States. Six appendixes provide information on transnationals linked to intervention in Central America, military advisors and their academic affiliations, university defense spending, the Department of Defense-University Forum, applied R&D at U.S. universities, and organizing methodology and resources. (MDM)

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